

# SHEAFFER'S *Review*





Al Howard polishes a rock in his basement workroom. Lower right photo shows portion of his huge collection of rocks and minerals.

*there's a world to know about*

# ROCKS

[much about butterflies or book match covers!]

If you want to spend an educational evening some time, ask Al to show you his collection. He'll point out that there are three general classifications of rocks — igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic (which indicate how they were formed), and that these classifications are sub-divided into so many groups it would take a book to describe them.

### *Finding the Unseen*

Some minerals have fluorescent properties and Al takes pride in his collection of these. A dull, dead looking rock may be a beautiful, vivid colored specimen under the ultra-violet rays of the so called "black light". And you never know in any case what beauty nature has hidden in an ordinary rock until you cut and polish it, he says.

The most fun of all, says Al, is the "finding" and "identification". In general, minerals may be identified by eight characteristics: color, lustre, transparency, streak, cleavage, fracture, hardness and specific gravity.

You start out with the color and try not to be fooled, because most minerals are found in several colors. You can determine the lustre (metallic or non-metallic) if you don't get too confused by waxy, pearly, glassy, etc. lustres. Streak is the color of the mark made by rubbing the specimen on a piece of unglazed porcelain—but watch it, it may be different than the color of the specimen. Cleavage, fracture, hardness and specific gravity next have to be studied, and after you've done all this, consulted a crystal ball and a few minerology tables, you come up with the fact that you are the proud possessor of a hunk of ortho-clase feldspar.

At about this point you might decide to go back to collecting beer bottle caps.

At any rate, Al Howard has several thousand rock and mineral specimens in his basement, and he says he's having the time of his life with his hobby.

**O**UTDOOR interests like hunting, fishing, dogs, and even the culture of certain flowers have always been pastime pleasures of Works Manager Al Howard, but it was just recently that he got interested in the unusual hobby of collecting rocks and minerals.

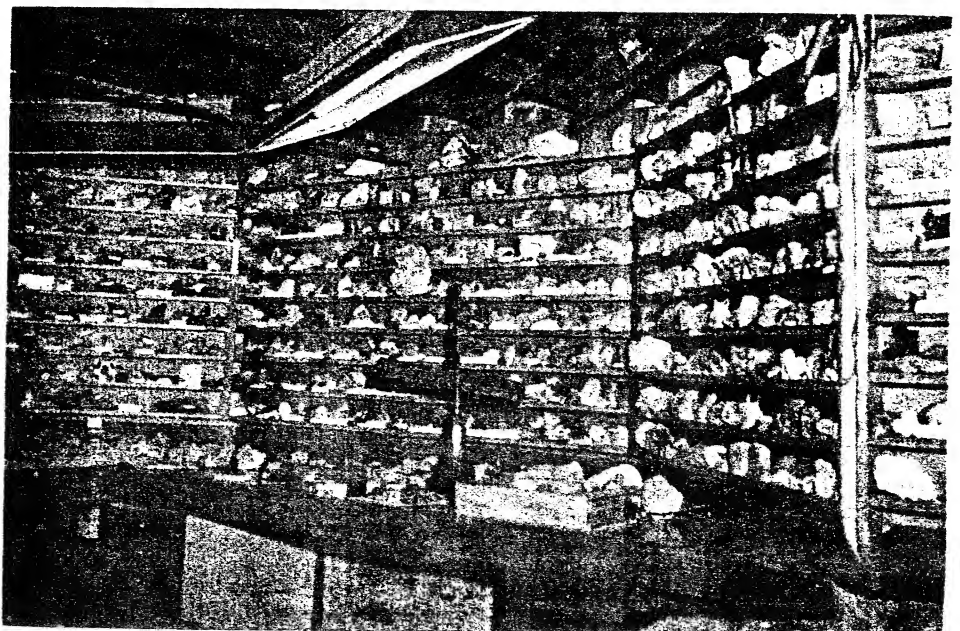
Being an engineer by trade, and generally familiar with mineral bearing rocks, Al knew long ago that rocks aren't just something to stumble over or to play at backing dogs. But by his own admission he soon discovered there was an almost endless number of angles to his new hobby.

A semi-retired doctor in Colorado got Al interested in rocks and minerals while on a vacation there. Before returning he searched the dump piles of some of the more fabulous but now abandoned gold and silver mines in the West and came back with the springs of his car straining under the load of his finds.

### *Has Basement Display*

In his basement Al built shelves and set up some cutting and polishing equipment, and then he started tramping through local quarries, gravel pits and rocky streams for interesting specimens. He claims he was amazed at the variety that had been under his very feet all these years.

Rock, says Al, is what we exist on, by and because of. The planet earth is held together by rocks, and without them there would be no mountains or valleys, seas or deserts. From rocks come the minerals that make life possible. [Ed's note: Try to say as





# Goings On . . .

It was Sales Convention time all over again when the first of the new series of dealer Merchandising Clinics was held in October. Upper left photo shows Sales Manager Harvey Whidden welcoming the 80 dealers from all over the country who attended. Clinics are aimed at offering selling suggestions and ideas, and giving dealers a better appreciation of our product and way of business.



Heiress Reu and Rose Nooning (Order Handling) are greeted by Grey Ladies at Red Cross blood donation center where they joined 147 other Sheaffer employees from President Sheaffer on down who gave a pint of blood each for the Armed Forces the latter part of October. Still others gave as members of outside clubs and organizations. Picture at lower right shows donors in action.

Marion Paul greets Dr. Ralph Hansen (left) and his economics class from Carthage College. The Illinois students toured plant and took part in panel discussion.

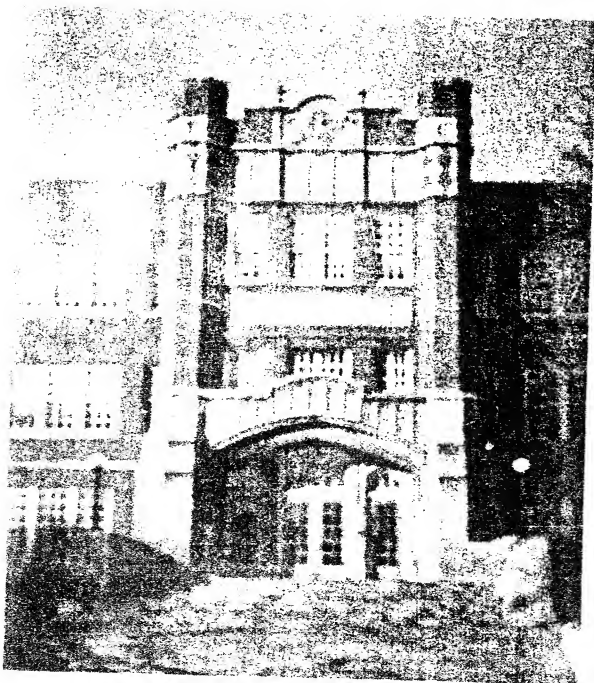




Al Christy and Vic Patteson are machine shop students.

# SCHOOL

## *Begins after dark for them*



**W**HEN you walk out the plant doors at 5 o'clock you've usually earned yourself an evening of rest and relaxation — especially these cold winter nights when anything but staying home takes a special urge.

Let's take our hats off then to about a dozen Sheaffer employees who don't call it a day at 5 p. m. They're the after dark students who shell out \$10 for some extra knowledge offered by the 10-week night courses given at the public high school.

Maybe you just want to learn a hobby, or maybe you are after what most of these people want — knowledge that will increase their earning ability. In any case, each year from October 6 through December 10 the public school system cooperates with the community at large by offering teachers and facilities for learning after hours.

There are courses this year in machine tools, shorthand, typing, bookkeeping, woodwork and art. Sheaffer people are in all of them.

# SCHOOL

*Teachers and facilities make it easy*

Here are Sheaffer people at work in night school courses.



Milt Kokjohn, high school instructor in charge of 10-week night school, expounds some blackboard theory to machine shop students.



Marilyn Kokjohn (Metal Fab) and Gladys Fehr (Service) race against stopwatch in shorthand course they are taking. Standing by is Mrs. Lorena Bartlett, high school shorthand instructor.



Tom Conratt (Gold Nib) gets a pointer in metal lathe operation from instructor Kokjohn.



George Holdren, high school commercial teacher, lends a hand to Virgie Young (Metal Fab) who is studying bookkeeping.



Les Jones applies clamps to what will be walnut coffee table made in woodwork course.

# SHEAFFER'S REVIEW

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EDITOR - - - C. R. BOYD

## We All Could Have Been Communists!

The festive spirit of a holiday like Thanksgiving usually rules out too much serious thought about the occasion at the time, but this week as you slice off a slab or two from that left-over turkey you might like to ponder a strange side of the reason the Pilgrim Fathers started it all back in the 1620's.

Our grade school history books taught us that Thanksgiving came about because of the first bountiful crop the struggling Pilgrims enjoyed. Do you know why it was the first?

It seems that despite our rightful pride in democracy and free enterprise, our very own forefathers in 1620 crossed us up and were the first *communists* in America.

It was a beautiful, idealistic dream. The Plymouth colony agreed that all crops raised should belong to the colony as a whole and not to individual members who worked in the fields.

### A Complete Flop

From 1620 until the spring of 1623 they struggled to make the system work. But the scheme didn't produce enough willing workers to raise the necessary crops to feed them. Each worker was inclined to do just enough to get by — and as a result they all nearly starved for three years.

But fortunately the Pilgrims set up

## Merry Christmas!

When this reaches you it will be a little early for Christmas, but not too early to get a bit serious about the occasion.

Tinsel, trappings, parties and good fun are all a part of the coming holiday season, and we hope you all enjoy every minute of it. But there's another way of looking at it.

The unknown quantity — that is what "X" means in mathematics. Yet strangely enough "X" is the symbol chosen as the abbreviation for the word Christ in Christmas.

Actually, the English letter "X" is the same as the first letter of the Greek Christos (Christ), but most of us, says the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, never heard of Christos, so for us "X" still represents the unknown.

This is a pretty serious world we're living in now, and maybe it wouldn't be a bad idea to pause and remember what's easy to forget — that Christ gave us the greatest gift of all, eternal life. And it's His birthday we celebrate. There is nothing unknown about this fact.

We'd like to wish each of you a good, old-fashioned merry Christmas, and all the best for 1953!

their laws so that a dictator couldn't arise among them, and when they saw the error of the communal system they started of their own free will, they quit it the same way.

Suddenly things began to prosper and there was more than enough food for everyone. "Even the women now went willingly into the fields, and took their little ones with them to set corn," wrote Governor Bradford of the colony. And everyone was so happy about it all that they put on a spread and invited in a few hungry Indians to celebrate.

### Smart Enough to Learn

In the opinion of Governor Bradford, the original communistic scheme of the Pilgrims "was found to breed much confusion and discontent, and retard much employment that would have been to their benefit and comfort."

So despite our country's questionable beginning, we can be mighty happy they were smart enough to recognize a bad thing and celebrate a change to a better way of life!

"Sammy," asked the teacher, "How many make a million?"

"Not many," answered Sammy quickly.

## On the Cover



How can you pose a cover shot with a Christmas touch when your deadline falls before snow, before decorations, even before Thanksgiving? We didn't stop to answer that question — just sent away for a tailor made cover this month.

—Photo by Harold M. Lambert.

Sheaffer's Review

## Service Anniversaries

### — 5 YEARS —

Conrad Rinkers (Engineering)  
Dorothy Norton (Plant #3)  
Lloyd Fowler (Plant #3)  
Donna Brownell (Plant #3)  
Carl Ingwerson (Plant #3)

### — 10 YEARS —

Clyde Smith (Pencil)

### — 15 YEARS —

Ruby Herold (Plastic Fab.)

## Christmas Activities Again Scheduled

There will be the usual Sheaffer run Christmas holiday activities this year, according to Gene Davis, Activities Committee president.

Gene says the annual Christmas party at the Club House will be held Friday evening, December 19. There will, as usual, be movies and treats for the kids when Santa makes his appearance, and mom and dad will be able to nudge their neighbor and say "that's my boy!" when youngsters make their stage debut with talent contributions.

All Sheaffer employees are invited to attend and bring their children. It will be a big evening for the kids.

On Sunday, December 21, Activities Committee members will once again bring a little cheer to Lee County Home old folks with motion pictures, music, oyster stew and gift boxes. This particular activity has been going on since back sometime around 1937 when employees in Gold Nib chipped in for the purpose on their own. The Activities Committee now runs it and it's financed by the Community Chest.

December, 1952

## UP THE SHEAFFER LADDER

BACK in 1925 Lynn Martin, fresh out of Kahoka (Mo.) High School, drove to Ft. Madison to apply for a job at Sheaffer's. He had in mind earning enough money to begin college for a degree in engineering.

He got the job, but instead of moving on he spent the next 27 years right here, and in the process he got a practical education in engineering that resulted in a success story most college trained engineers would give an arm to claim — for Lynn Martin rose from a beginning operator to Chief Development Engineer and the holder of no less than 22 patents on writing equipment function and design. And more patents are pending.



LYNN MARTIN

For a farm boy who had little more than a desire to know machinery and tools, Lynn quickly became master of them. He spent his first two years in the Holder department (now Plastic Fab) as an operator and raw stock inspector. He then took over a lathe in the Service department. Two years later he was in the Tool Room.

All during this period Lynn showed an aptitude for original ideas. As he explains it — with a little urging — he was the type worker who disliked monotonous operations and was always tinkering with different ways and means to accomplish the same thing. Lynn says this isn't exactly a good thing in a lot of cases, but we say it panned out mighty good for Sheaffer's, for before long his abilities were noticed and experimental jobs were being channeled his way.

During the depression days Lynn helped develop the first major change in the function of our feeds — making them have fluid control never before attained. All our feeds since are based on that early development. And he has also designed machines still used in making feeds. It was Lynn who tossed on his boss's desk one day the first model of the revolutionary cylindrical Triumph nib. Bill Heising, then Plant Superintendent, thought it had possibilities and authorized Lynn to experiment further with 14K gold — a pretty heady thing in those days.

In 1937 Lynn was made Product Engineer in the Development department, and during the war responsibilities were really tossed his way when he was given the task of designing our post-war line.

Out of all this grew the Touchdown filler, the spring clip, the Safeguard and enough other Lynn Martin function and design innovations on which to write a book. The latest, of course, is our SNORKEL pen which he got an inspiration for one Sunday afternoon while puttering around at home.

And it's almost incidental that Lynn rose from Product Engineer to Development supervisor to Department manager to Chief Development Engineer since.

Instead of taking a lot of well deserved bows, Lynn Martin prefers to give all praise to this company and its management for making it possible for him to get to the top in his field without the college degree he started out for.

Strictly for

# Christmas Eating

# Santa Gets a Free Lift

When Aunt Mabel and Uncle Flossmore and their brood drop in for Christmas week, you'll probably want to whip up a few gastronomical goodies. John Charters comes to the rescue this month with a couple of recipes designed for pleasing particular palates. Here, for instance, is John's . . .

## Pumpkin Pie

(With the Sheaffer Touch)

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup brown sugar    | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup pumpkin          |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt      | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup white corn syrup |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup flour          | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk             |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cream            |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon nutmeg    | 2 eggs                             |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon ginger    |                                    |

**DIRECTIONS:** Sift brown sugar smooth and mix with salt, flour and spices. Add the pumpkin and mix thoroughly. Add milk and cream, stirring in well. Allow to stand one hour or more. Beat eggs and mix in thoroughly. Place in unbaked shell and bake 40 minutes at 450 F.

**NOTE:** The corn syrup in the recipe prevents cracking of the filler and adds sheen to the pie.

For a good rich crust for this pie, use the following recipe:

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 cup flour                  | $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt      |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shortening | $2\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons water |

Mix flour and shortening to crumbs, but do not overmix. Dissolve salt in water and add to flour mix. Roll out on floured board to fit pan and build up around edges.

**FRIENDLY ADVICE:** Many women say "I just can't make good pie". In my (John talking) opinion one of the principal reasons is that they feel it is a terrible job. They work at it strenuously and consequently they overwork the dough. Make up your mind there is nothing to it and you'll do a better job.

And now by popular demand we asked John to tell us what kind of alchemy he advises to add a Christmas touch to the sweet roll recipe he passed along a couple of months ago. Here's what he gave us . . .

## Holiday Sweet Rolls

To give a holiday touch to Sheaffer sweet rolls (see the REVIEW of July 1952) add 1 cup chopped candied fruit to dough after first item of flour has been mixed in. Otherwise, proceed as indicated in the basic recipe.



Since November 1 Loren Simmons, Jaycee Christmas toy program chairman, and committee members like Paul McManus (left) and Conrad Gillett (right) have been up to their knees in discarded toys — making them new again for needy children.

There are going to be a lot of happy needy kids again this Christmas eve—thanks to the fifth annual Jaycee Christmas toy program.

This year's toy committee is headed up by a Sheaffer man, Loren Simmons (Molding). Since the first of November Loren and seven other committee members including Paul McManus, Conrad Gillett, Wallace Reid and John Keirse, have been giving up their spare hours to get together in Al Kenel's (Santa Fe employee) workshop in the west end where they repair and fancy up discarded toys.

The toys are collected by two local

theatres who charge a matinee admission of one toy, and they also come from people throughout the community who call in.

On Christmas eve three Jaycee Santas decked out in full uniform hop in trucks and bring a little gaiety at homes where kids might not otherwise have much to be gay about.

A lot of people are involved in it. The Camp Fire Girls dress the dolls after they're laundered, for instance. Du Pont donates the paint. And this year two local girls convalescing in a Burlington hospital are putting together discarded jig-saw puzzles.

And while we're at it, we'd better say

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

too